

Application No.: 09/725,156

Docket No.: 00VE12.25

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace the first paragraph of page 12 at lines 1 – 5 (paragraph [0031] of the printed application) with the following amended paragraph:

[0031] A third architecture for providing additional voice telephone lines is based on digital subscriber line (DSL) technology. Circuit switch 110 is connected to Digital Signal Cross-connect (DSX) 160 providing connectivity to next generation network (NGN) 170. NGN 170 may include, for example, a switched voiced gateway (SVG) 172, ~~A-synchronous~~ Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) switch 174 and/or Next.

Please replace the paragraph beginning a line 13 of page 13 (paragraph [0035] of the printed application) with the following amended paragraph:

[0035] Referring to FIG. 2 of the drawings, CO 100 includes DSLAM 142 connected to NGN 170 for providing a back door access to circuit switch 110 via DSX 160. DSLAM 142 is connected through DSL testing and maintenance equipment 142 144. Thus, the DSL circuits from DSLAM 142 are then routed to a power/line shelf 152 which provides appropriate DC power for remote equipment including utility pole mounted PVD 293 via MDF 120 and intermediate SAI 260. Power/line shelf 152 thus provides power and battery backup for remote equipment to ensure uninterrupted POTS service over DSL even when local power is out. PVD 293, mounted on utility pole 282 in the vicinity of customer premises 294a-294f (powered by DC power provided by power/line shelf 152) functions to convert the DSL channels into standard POTS signaling to be provided over local drops to respective network interface devices (NIDs) 292a-292f at the respective customer premises. At each of the customer premises 294a-294f, a primary telephone is supported by standard copper circuit based POTS while a second telephone line including a second telephone and a modem and computer terminal are supported by the DSL provisioned circuits. In case of loss of power, all required circuitry and systems are powered by the CO including, for example, in the case of the copper based POTS circuits, battery and ringing, and in the case of DSL-based systems, power to PVD 293. In addition, PVD 293

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provides standard POTS loop current and signaling to the associated local drops supporting customer premises 294a-294f.